

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendment and remarks contained herein in response to the Office Action mailed October 3, 2003. No new matter has been added by the amendment. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment and remarks contained herein place the instant application in condition for allowance.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

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1. (Currently amended) A method for processing an electronic request to purchase goods or services, the method comprising:
 - providing to a shopper, via a communications network, an opportunity to select a notification option ~~an option to supply notification information~~;
 - receiving electronic purchasing information from the shopper via the communications network, the purchasing information containing an electronic request to purchase goods or services and optionally supplied notification information, the notification information representative of at least one communication pathway for communicating with the shopper;
 - recognizing the occurrence of a triggering event that affects the performance of the electronic request; and
 - if the shopper has selected the notification option and supplied the notification information, notifying the shopper that the triggering event has occurred via the at least one communication pathway ~~as represented in the notification information~~.
 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - creating a shopper profile associated with the shopper, the shopper profile containing the electronic request and the notification information associated with the shopper; and
 - accessing the notification information in the shopper profile.
 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving notification information comprises receiving one of an email address, a telephone number and a pager number.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving notification information comprises receiving presence information.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the notification information comprises a plurality of communication pathways, each pathway having a preferred rank.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communications network is the Internet.

7. (Currently amended) A computer having instructions thereon for processing an electronic request to purchase goods or services, the instructions performing the steps comprising:

providing to a shopper, via a communications network, an opportunity to select a notification option ~~an option to supply notification information;~~

receiving electronic purchasing information from the shopper via the communications network, the purchasing information containing an electronic request to purchase goods or services and optionally supplied notification information, the notification information representative of at least one communication pathway for communicating with the shopper;

recognizing the occurrence of a triggering event that affects the performance of the electronic request; and

if the shopper has selected the notification option and supplied the notification information, notifying the shopper that the triggering event has occurred via the at least one communication pathway ~~as represented in the notification information.~~


8. (Original) The computer of claim 7 further comprising:

creating a shopper profile associated with the shopper, the shopper profile containing the electronic request and the notification information associated with the shopper; and
accessing the notification information in the shopper profile.

9. (Original) The computer of claim 7, wherein receiving notification information comprises receiving one of an email address, a telephone number and a pager number.

10. (Original) The computer of claim 7, wherein receiving notification information comprises receiving presence information.

11. (Original) The computer of claim 7, wherein the notification information comprises a plurality of communication pathways, each pathway having a preferred rank.



12. (Currently amended) A server computer for processing an electronic request to purchase goods or services from a shopper, the server comprising:

- a communications interface connected to a communications network for establishing a communications link between the server and a host client computer;
- a processing engine in communication with the communications interface

for providing to the shopper an opportunity to select a notification option an option to supply notification information, receiving purchasing information from the shopper via the host client computer and the communications network, the purchasing information containing an electronic request to purchase goods or services, and optionally supplied notification information representative of at least one communication pathway for communicating with the shopper; and

for recognizing the occurrence of a triggering event that affects the performance of the electronic request; and

for notifying the shopper that the triggering event has occurred via the at least one communication pathway if the shopper has selected the notification option and supplied the notification information.

13. (Original) The server system of claim 12 further comprising:

a data storage facility in communication with the processing engine for storing data representing the notification information.

14. (Original) The server system of claim 13 wherein the data storage facility further comprises:

a shopper profile associated with the shopper and containing the electronic request and the notification information associated with the shopper.

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15. (Original) The server system of claim 12 further comprising:
a message routing agent adapted to receive notification information.
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